

**Gonzales Economic Development Corporation  
Incentives Program and Application Information  
2023-2024**

The mission of the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation is to grow the future of Gonzales. The purpose is to assist existing and new businesses to achieve growth and expansion by promoting new development, and business retention and expansion, while creating and retaining jobs, as well as improving quality of life.

Incentives can support those projects that meet economic development law and community standards. GEDC cannot simply provide gifts of sales tax proceeds. A contract is required before any funds may be provided to a project, regardless of the amount. The contract is referred to as a "performance agreement" under Chapter 501 of the Texas Local Government Code.

At a minimum, a performance agreement must:

- 1) Be signed by the parties;
- 2) Set forth a schedule of additional payroll, additional jobs, or metrics for the business enterprise's economic impact and expansion within the community;
- 3) Outline in dollars and cents the capital investment to be made by the business enterprise;
- 4) Contain the amount of funds or other monetary or in-kind incentives provided to the business enterprise;
- 5) The terms under which repayment must be made by the business enterprise to the GEDC should the business fail to meet its contractual obligations; and,
- 6) Contain statutory legal disclaimers required by all Texas political subdivisions and EDCs under the Texas Tax Code, Texas Government Code, and Texas Local Government Code (this includes language that the business enterprise will not employ undocumented workers and will not use the funds to pay delinquent income or property taxes, etc.).

Should an eligible applicant be considered for receipt of any funding, any potential performance agreement is required to be approved by both the GEDC board of directors and the City Council as governing authority.

Incentives are based on available funding; applications may be considered for the following incentive focus areas:

- **BUSINESS RETENTION & ENHANCEMENT INCENTIVE**  
Examples may include support for existing business growth, expansion and improvements, including bringing a property up to code and/or performing significant interior capital improvements and/or performing significant exterior capital improvements; and, may include skills training and/or certification to support new and/or existing employees
- **ENTERPRISE/START-UP INCENTIVE**  
Examples may include new businesses/developments
- **FAÇADE – EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVE**  
Examples may include Signage-Paint-Lighting-Awnings-Masonry/Tuckpointing (with special regard for historic preservation)
- **NON-PROFIT/COMMUNITY SERVICES INCENTIVE**  
Application must meet the following standard: How does this project provide new and/or expanded business enterprise/development
- **QUALITY OF LIFE INCENTIVE**  
Examples are projects to improve a community's quality of life, which may include, but is not limited to parks, professional and amateur sport and athletic facilities, tourism and entertainment facilities, etc. to enhance the community

To be considered for potential funding, a **COMPLETE** application must be submitted to the GEDC.

**Completed applications received by the First DAY of the month will be considered at that month's board meeting; applications received AFTER the first day of the month will be considered at the board meeting of the following month.**

Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis and depend on availability of funding. Projects shall not receive funding greater than 50% of the project budget; and, must be supported by professional bids/estimates of work to be completed. Maximum of one award per project, and cannot be combined with other grants and/or incentives, i.e. Main Street AND Economic Development Corporation, or within 36 months of any prior GEDC related funding.

Funding is disqualified for any improvements made PRIOR to receiving approval of the performance agreement. If approved, funds will be disbursed only after completion of the project in accordance with the agreed upon terms. Upon approval of the project, a representative(s) of the GEDC shall have the right, at reasonable times, to access and inspect work in progress. Applicants must comply with agreed upon terms of the performance agreement.

To receive an application, submit a letter of intent to apply, which indicates your understanding of these guidelines, to:

**Gonzales Economic Development Corporation**  
**Attn: Executive Director**  
**P.O. Box 547**  
**Gonzales, TX 78629**

Or, email to:

[GEDC@gonzales.texas.gov](mailto:GEDC@gonzales.texas.gov)

Or, hand deliver to physical address:

**Gonzales Economic Development Corporation**  
**305 St. Lawrence Street**  
**Gonzales, TX**

Please contact the Gonzales Economic Development office with any questions:

**Email:** [GEDC@gonzales.texas.gov](mailto:GEDC@gonzales.texas.gov)

**Phone :** **830-263-9327** -- **Susan Sankey**  
**Executive Director**

**830-857-4307** -- **Alexis Cerda**  
**Administrative Assistant**